

Chinese honey workshop

Bologna, June 27th, 2016

Dr Marco Lodesani

Le frodi nel miele

Bologna, 19 Ottobre 2015



PRINCIPAL HONEY PRODUCERS

812k ton (51%)
Top 6 countries

China 446k ton
(27,7%)

Turkey 90k ton (5,6%)

Argentina 73,7k ton
(4,6%)

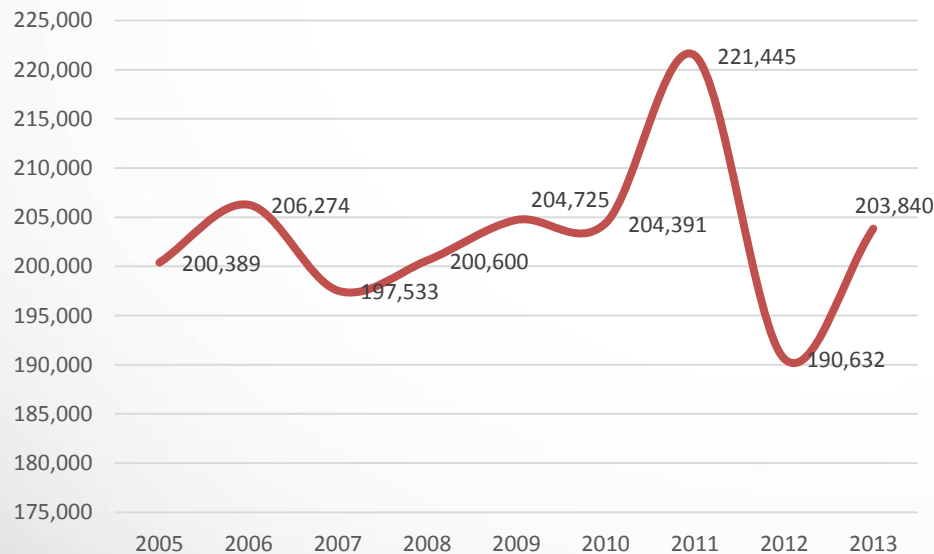
Ukraine 71,2k ton
(4,4%)

USA 70k ton
(4,3%)

Russia 61,2k ton
(3,8%)

Top-player (2010-2013)

EU honey production
(tons)



WORLD HONEY EXPORTATION

1.217,7 Mln €
Total export value

830 Mln € (68%)
Export (first 10 countries)

Italy (2014)
14° position



166,5 Mln € (13,7%)



154,2 Mln € (12,7%)



92,9 Mln € (7,6%)



85,9 Mln € (7,1%)

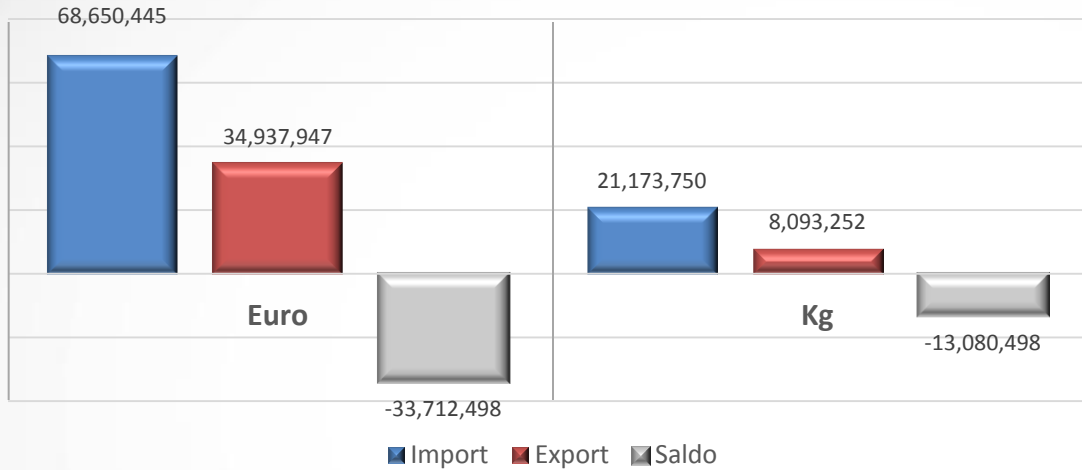


80,5 Mln € (6,6%)

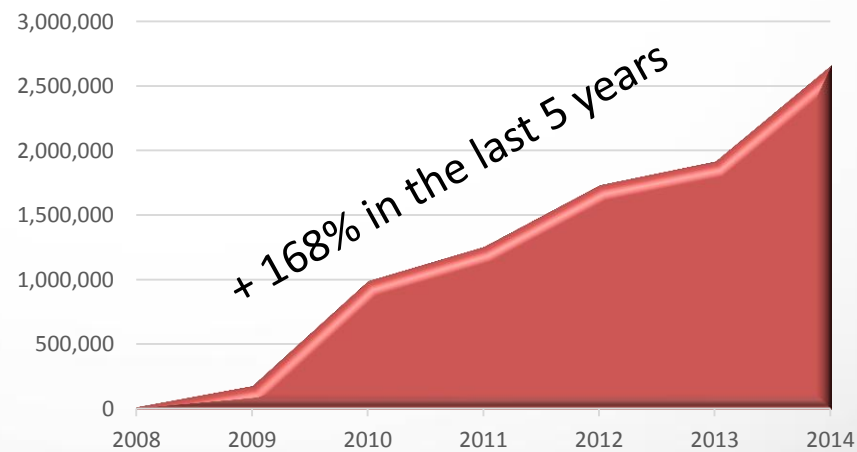
Top-exporter (2010-2014)

BALANCE OF TRADE - ITALY VERSUS WORLD

Honey, balance of trade, Italy - 2014



Honey importation from China to Italy (kg)



Chinese honey route

Case of mislabeled and adulterated honey imported from China to USA

Americans consume more honey than anyone else in the world, nearly 200.000 tons every year.

- Chinese honey is one of the cheapest in the world. (In 2006, when Chinese honey was selling internationally at about US \$1,3, honey in the rest of the world cost 50% more).
- Chinese honey is a poor quality honey (Chinese beekeepers tap honey before it matures which results in high moisture content);
- Residues: antibiotic (chloramphenicol, streptomycin and tetracycline) and pesticides (lindane);
- Adulterated with rice sugar, molasses, or fructose and honey suddenly coming from other Asian countries;
- Often the honey was filtered to remove the pollen;

In 2001 US erected trade barriers against Chinese honey, Chinese exporters began to re-route their consignments through third countries.

Largest Food Fraud in U.S. History

THE HONEY TRAP

ALW was based in Germany

Fake documents helped the honey through U.S. customs

Their offices in China used independent brokers to procure honey

Fifty-gallon drums of Chinese honey were shipped to India, Malaysia, Indonesia, South Korea, Russia, Mongolia, Thailand, Taiwan, and the Philippines, where they were relabeled and often filtered to remove traces of their origin

Honey from China is subject to tariffs that can triple its cost—higher than the tariffs imposed on any other country

If one U.S. processor rejected the honey, ALW would find another buyer

GRAPHIC BY BLOOMBERG BUSINESSWEEK; DATA: COMPILED BY BLOOMBERG

Honey laundering 2006-2010

05/05/2016

HSI Chicago seizes nearly 60 tons of honey illegally imported from China



CHICAGO — Special agents with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) have seized nearly 60 tons of illegally imported Chinese honey valued at more than \$200,000 destined for U.S. consumers.

The three shipping container loads (195 barrels) of bulk honey smuggled into the United States were falsely declared as originating from Vietnam to evade anti-dumping duties applicable to Chinese-origin honey.

CREA-API services

Lab is accredited by ACCREDIA since 1998
Requirement of standards EN ISO/IEC 17025

- Sensory analysis
- Physicochemical analysis of products
- Microbiological analysis of honey
- Palynological analysis
- Residue testing
- Diagnosis of bee diseases
- Biometric analyses on bees
- Genetic analyses



HONEY - services

Analytical control

accredited analyses

Compliance

Quality

Healthiness (residues)

Authenticity / Frouds



Commitment by Ministry of agricultural, food and forest policy

- *National register of the italian bee breeders*
(D.M. n. 20984 del 10/3/97);
- *National register of the experts in sensory analysis*
(D.M. n. 21547 del 28/5/99)
- *National register of the experts in melissopalinalogy*
(D.M. n. 21547 del 28/5/99)

CHINESE HONEY WORKSHOP

June 27th, 2016

9.15 Registration – Welcome coffee

9.45 *Marco Lodesani*, CREA – API - Italy

Initial greeting

10.00 *Peter Martin*, Melissopalynology specialist - United Kingdom

Geographical sources of Chinese product: honey types by Chinese province

10.45 *Katja Bohm*, Intertek – Germany & **Laurence Thomazo**, Lune de miel - France

Pollen spectra of selected monofloral & polyfloral honeys of China

12.15 *Lucia Piana*, Piana Ricerca e Consulenza Srl - Italy & *Francesca Corvucci, Francesca-Vittoria Grillenzoni*, CREA API - Italy

Presentation of the test results

13.00 Lunch

14.00 *Katja Bohm*, Intertek – Germany

Sediment of Chinese honeys

14.15 *Lucia Piana*, Piana Ricerca e Consulenza Srl - Italy

Microscopic observation of main pollens in the analyzed samples

17.00 Discussion, proposals, perspectives

17.25 Conclusions

17.30 End of the meeting